

The monthly A*C*E

October 2000

Since 1982



DIALOGS October 2000

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LATE LOGS

Alfa Lima International: 6/25-0019-15070-AM. (JS,NE fair)
7/8-2320-15070-AM. (JS,NE 333)
Ground Zero Radio: 7/9-0142-6955-USB. (JS,NE 434 fabulous pgml)
Indira Calling: 6/24-0325-6955.2-USB. (JS,NE)
KIPM: 8/5-0236-6950-USB. (SG,IL 333 mobile)
8/5-0340-6950-USB. (SG,IL 333 mobile)
KMART: 7/9-2330-6955-USB. (JS,NE)
KRMI (tent.): 7/1-1352-6955.1-USB. (JS,NE tough copy)
Psycho Radio: 7/2-0414-6953-USB. (JS,NE PLS QSL)
7/4-0329-6955-USB. (JS,NE PLS QSL)
Radio Azteca: 7/4-0250-6950-USB. (JS,NE)
Radio Metallica WW: 7/8-0335-6954.9-USB. (JS,NE muddy audio)
7/9-0101-6955-USB. (JS,NE)
Radio Obscura: 8/5-0315-6950-USB. (SG,IL 333 mobile PLS QSL)
Voice Of Captain Ron SW (tent.): 7/10-0257-6955-USB. (JS,NE)
WHYP: 7/11-0249-6954.9-USB. (JS,NE)
8/7-0103-6950-USB. (SG,IL 423 excellent show!)
WRX: 7/19-0245-6950.6v-USB. (JS,NE)

FROM ACROSS THE POND

Jolly Roger Radio International-

Sept.10-0618-0650+-6239-AM. Techno version of "Teenager In Love" & other Euro dance mx. (BT,WV 222)

Live Wire Radio-

Aug.20-0050-0137+-6305-AM. 60's & 70's pop mx,tx abt a friend at Radio Pamela. (RC,MA 353)

Radio Geronimo-64 Brighton Road, Leicester LE101HA, England

Sept.9-2354+-15070-AM. (presumed via Alfa Lima Int.) OM mentioned this was a special tropical band brdcast so must have been an old tape. (CL,MA)

NORTH AMERICA-SHORTWAVE

Blind Faith Radio- blindfaithradio@yahoo.com

Sept.3-1626-1651+-6955-USB. Usual pgm of classic rock mx,mentioned Niel Wolfish during brdcast,claimed to be the first NA pirate to brdcast during this millenium. (GZ,OH 253)

CELL- still QSLs?

Sept.4-0229-0238*-6950.4-AM. Ma Bell gave stn permission to use frequency,recording of a couple having phone sex,song "I am The Walrus". (RC,MA 333 PLS QSL)

Disco Broadcast Network-QSL info unknown

Sept.5-0140-0150-6955-USB. Mx by The Village People,OM sd "This is a test,if this had been an actual emergency you'd have felt more funkier than you already do!". (ZR CA 344)

Sept.5-0248-0250*-6955-USB. Mx by The Village People & ID. (JS,NE strong PLS QSL)

East Coast Beer Drinker-Blue Ridge Summit,PA

Sept.3-0410-0429*-6955-USB. Return of a veteran pirate w/pgm of dixieland,rock mx & bugle calls,op wasn't sure if his BRS drop was still valid,some tech problems. (GZ,OH 353+/454) (JS,NE great signal!) (BT,WV 532)

Ground Zero Radio- ggrsw@usa.net

Sept.10-0050-0114-6950-USB. Mx by Guns & Roses,tx abt China & terrorists. (NW ONT poor) (BS,AL 333 my first time hrd!)

KIPM-Lula,GA

Aug.26-0223-0515+-6955-USB. Numerous repeat shows. (ZR,CA 444) (JS,NE)
Aug.27-0213-0350+-6955-USB. "Housekeeping" pgm,spooky ID w/electronic mx. (RC MA 454) (LS,OH 353 PLS QSL) (ZR,CA 444)

KRMI- anned e-mail address of KRMI6955@hotmail.com

Aug.20*-0355-0403*-6955-USB. Rock mx & a couple of sketches including a YL speaking abt counseling. (GZ,OH 353+) (JS,NE fair)

Pan Global Wireless-sd to send logs to ACE

Sept.1-0232-0243-6957-USB. Fifth Anniversary Show called "Food,Flatulence & Feces". (JS,NE)

Pirate Radio Oldies 92.5-QSL info unknown

Sept.3-0110-0155*-6955-AM. Possible simulcast of an FM pirate in FL,oldies tunes like "I Get Around", "One Fine Day" & "Pretty Woman",low audio level & QRT in mid song. (CS,MD 533 PLS QSL) (GZ,OH 433) (GM,CT 131) (WH,IL 242 as unid) (JS,NE as unid PLS QSL)

Psycho Radio-QSL info unknown

Aug.27-0733-0825+-6955-USB. Special report about US President starting own pirate stn. (JS,NE tough copy)

Sept.4-0209-0238*-6950-AM. Strange show w/Christian tx & Beatles mx,phone ring ID. (GM,CT 233)

Sept.4-0321-0438+-6955-USB. Various pop mx plus some Metallica,tx abt M1 tank. (GM,CT 232) (BT,WV 544)

Sept.11-0153-0231+-6954-USB. Mx by Led Zeppelin & Rage Against The Machine. (ZR,CA 322) (JS,NE)

Radio Free Speech-still QSLs?

Sept.17-1306-1320-6955-AM. Bill O Rights w/ "Trucker's Tabernacle" parody,gave old Wellsville,NY drop. (CL,MA)

Radio Neptune-Blue Ridge Summit,PA

Sept.11-0001-0025-6955v-USB. OM w/audio test playing bluesy 70's rock mx,brdcast was drifting & distorted except for final 3-4 minutes,frequent IDs. (BT,WV)

Radio Three-QSLs via Dialogs

Sept.4-0106-0140*-6950-USB. Anncr Sal Ammoniac w/rock mx,tx abt pirate radio & mentioned The ACE. (GM,CT 434) (GZ,OH 232+) (WH,IL 244)

Radio Three (fake)-QSLs via loggings

Sept.9-0034-0050*-6950-USB. Radio Three audio altered so Sal Ammoniac was IDing as "Radio Jawbox" & "Radio Gary Moore",mx by Right Said Fred & The Singing Nuns,sd to send logs into The ACE. (NW,ONT good) (GZ,OH 343+) (JS,NE good)

Voice Of Shortwave Radio-Blue Ridge Summit,PA

Sept.17-0222-0226*-6240-AM. Caught end of show abt a guy w/a pirate stn who broad- casts for 6 months until he figures out he's been talking to himself. (BT,WV 435 excellent show!)

WEAK-sd to send logs to ACE

Sept.5-0045-0058*-6950-AM. First brdcast of stn using a Dentron 1kw linear amp & brdcasting @500 watts,host Leonard Longwire played "Mother In-Law" & "Tossing & Turning",mentioned "in honor of Ricki Lake",quick QRT. (CW,MI strong) (GM,CT 434 as unid)

WHYP- whyp1530@yahoo.com

Aug.27-2133-2207*-6955-USB. Pgm of rock mx,anned as a xmtr maintenance test. (GZ OH 353) (LS,OH 353 PLS QSL)

Sept.6-0015-0033*-6950.3-USB. Rock mx & IDs by Ravi Brownyard. (CL,MA)

Sept.9-2217-2300*-6955-USB. Ravi Brownyard giving NFL predictions for games from the previous week,mx by Devo,The Vapours & The Beastie Boys. (CL,MA) (NW,ONT good)

Sept.18-0119-0129-6955.1-USB. James Brownyard doing the weather & Ravi giving QSL info,OM doing final QRT "for James Brownyard Memorial Station". (JS,NE)

WLIQ-Blue Ridge Summit,PA

Aug.20-0304-0319-6954.9-USB. Special test brdcast w/possible jamming,mentioned "Lake Superior Circle Route...". (ZR,CA 333) (JS,NE)

WLIS-Blue Ridge Summit,PA

Sept.4-2247-2311*-6955-USB. Usual pgm of various interval signals plus some jingles. (GZ,OH 252+) (WH,IL 144) (LS,OH 454) (JS,NE strong)

WLXC (tent.)- QSL info unknown

Aug.20-0317-0319*-6955-USB. Caught the end of rock mx pgm sponsored by beer,did hear stn ID but unclear if this was the stn ID or ID was recorded off somebody else. (GZ OH 353)

WMFQ-Providence,RI

Aug.20-0327-0351*-6955-USB. Steely Dan mx w/several chanting IDs promoting the QSL process. (GZ,OH 353+) (ZR,CA 333)

WUNH-Providence,RI

Aug.20-0249-0302-6954.9-USB. Rockabilly mx & surf song "Run,Run". (ZR,CA 444)

UNIDENTIFIED

Sept.3-0156-0205-6955-USB. Mild punk mx by the same band. (ZR,CA 322)

Sept.3-0225+-6955-USB. Comedy ads abt lawyers & alien abductions. (GM,CT 332)

Sept.4-0210-6950.4-AM. Beatles mx. (WH,IL 122)

Sept.4-0217-6955-USB. Rock mx,sounded like a test. (WH,IL 133)

Sept.5-0054-0058-6949.9-AM. More 50's rock & roll w/abrupt loss of signal. (JS,NE PLS QSL)

Sept.10-0112-0115-6950-USB. Brief rock mx. (ZR,CA 333)

Sept.11-0006-0024-6955-USB. Mx w/ID & BRS drop every 4 minutes or so,OM anncr. (JC,ONT 222)

Sept.16-0105-0107*-6955-LSB. Song "Fight The Power" then QRT. (JS,NE PLS QSL)

Sept.16-2346-2348*-6240-AM. Some type of radio play & sudden QRT. (BT,WV 534)

CONTRIBUTORS/PLEASE QSL ADDRESSES

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George Zeller,3492 W.123rd St.,Cleveland,OH 44111 (GZ)

DX NEWS OF INTEREST

Deadline for November Dialogs: October 20th



FRN THE FREE RADIO NETWORK

"Pirate Radio Invades the World Wide Web!"



- ✓Audio Clips
- ✓Photos
- ✓QSLs
- ✓The ACE
- ✓Chat
- ✓News
- ✓The Grapevine
- ✓Over 1000 Links

VERIED RESPONSE

Chris Lobdell
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Stoneham, MA 02180
EMAIL: clobdell@mediaone.net

NEXT COLUMN DEADLINE: October 19th.

Hi and welcome to the Halloween edition of VR. Yep, it's that time of year again. Halloween used to be one of the most popular pirate holidays until the pirate hunts on October 30th, 1998 when four shortwave pirates were closed down with hours of each other. Because of this, last Halloween was rather quiet. What will happen this year?

On to the QSL reports!

John McWilliams of Mechanicsburg, PA briefly awoke from his nap to take notice of a QSL from WHEQ [Were's My F---ing QSL!] received in 202 days signed by Mr. Gesselle.

John Sedlitz of Omaha, NE went into QSL heaven upon receiving the following. WHYP sent a nice full data QSL sheet in 3 months. WHYP sent their usual no data QSL with the usual Niel Wolfish motif. East Coast Beer Drinker sent a nice full size data only QSL with a full color Youngling Lager logo in about 2 weeks for an ACE website posting.

Bruce Fincher of St. Albans, WV was so excited he paid all his bills after receiving QSLs from Radio Chacura in two weeks along with artwork from Dr. A. Hazwell and a full page KIM in about a week.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO RKNA [THE ROCK OF NORTH AMERICA]?

We recently received the following from them ...

The guys at RKNA have pretty much retired- it's been a long time since they've been on and they're getting long in tooth, plus requirements on them personal-wise takes their time. Here's the lowdown they gave me:

"Harry I. Ball: Owner, announcer & Manager of RKNA- still keeping his eye on the government, watchdogging and making calls whenever needed to try & keep his Congress people in line.

The Ol' Western Feller: Maintenance man, announcer & armed guard for RKNA- was given permanent residence on the grounds to protect the special interests of the station. Still keepin' his powder dry & his shootin' eye sharp!



Buck Nekkid: announcer, RKNA- got out of jail for latest misdemeanor exposure of himself, last seen entering an upscale men's clothing store; possibly could show on the cover of GQ one day?

Andy Moony: announcer, commentator, RKNA- went for a job on 20/20, was told he had a "face for radio" and a voice like nails on a chalkboard; last seen wearing a sandwich board & handing out leaflets for a local eatery, spouting political advice to patrons.

The public is warned that there are some tapes out there that may or may not be relayed someday by God knows who. In that case, RKNA will NOT QSL, due to their post office box having been closed, even though their show may announce a maildrop. Harry I. Ball & the staff thanks everybody for listening in the past and encourages everyone to either listen, transmit or get out of the way - there will always be Free Radio."

That's it for this month. Don't forget to update your Free Radio Stats for next month. Happy Halloween.

-Chris

	WWEQ WE ECHO OTHERS	
Serving the continental wide rebroadcast needs of PIRATE broadcasters Thank you for your reception report. This confirms your DX.		
Date _____	Time _____	Freq _____
Power _____	Antenna _____	Location _____
P.O. Box 543, Chesapeake Beach, Maryland 20732		

FIGHT FOR FREE RADIO.



Weekends, tune in the U.S.
pirate station that keeps 48
meters "radio-active"!

The VOICE of SYNCOM

CLANDESTINE PROFILE

by: George Zeller

Your loggings, information, and speculations about clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can send them direct to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1200-2045 UTC weekdays. E-mail input is welcome via my georgez@nacs.net address, with <http://www.nacs.net/~georgez> providing access to my web page. My prior internet addresses will be expiring shortly; you should use the ones listed here from now on.

LOBDELL'S PIRATING WITH CUMBRE GOES WEEKLY

On many occasions we have mentioned *Cumbre DX* in this column. Cumbre remains the main open weekly newsletter for "difficult SWBC DX" loggings. Its clandestine coverage is often quite valuable, and so it is of interest to some of us. However, it ignores pirates completely as a matter of policy, which is why *Free Radio Weekly* was founded by Chris Lobdell to provide a Cumbre-like weekly pirate internet newsletter.

In addition to their internet newsletter, Cumbre produces a weekly shortwave DX program called *DXing with Cumbre*. Marie Lamb, the producer and announcer, puts a lot of effort into this fine service. This month we received a press release announcing that the pirate segment of this program is being expanded. I might as well print the whole release so that we all can see it:

PRESS RELEASE

PIRATING WITH CUMBRE, formerly a occasional segment within the DXING WITH CUMBRE program will return next weekend on a weekly basis. Format will be loggings heard within North America, any information on pirate tests, maildrop information., etc. The show starts on the DXing w/Cumbre broadcast this coming weekend 9-09/10. Segment will be 3-5 minutes with a longer segment featuring audio from a pirate once-a-month.

It is hoped that the weekly format of current pirate information will generate interest like that shown to Kristen K's [Paulesian] report on the former "Signals" program in the early 90's.

Loggings go to host Chris Lobdell's email: clobdell@mediaone.net or via mail to P.O. Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180.

Of course, Chris will be a stranger to absolutely nobody in ACE, since he writes the QSL column in *The ACE* every month! Obviously most of us will be very interested in this new effort. Now we can get pirate and clandestine information from Cumbre at the same time! The schedule of the program tends to vary with time, so you probably will want to check out their web site for the latest schedule. The URL for this one is at the <http://www.geocities.com/Area51/Station/7755/index.html#radio> URL. In addition, RealAudio feeds of past programs are available on the web by going to <http://www.cumbredx.org/cumbaud/> on your internet dial. But, I sometimes get suggestions from some of us that do not have internet access, so on a one-time basis, here is the full current schedule taken directly off the web site:

WHRI Angel 1 (To: America/Caribbean)
Sat 0600 7315
Sat 0830 7315
Sat 1330 15105
Sat 2330 9495
Sun 1500 15105
Sun 1600 15105

WHIRL Angel 2 (To: Europe/Middle East/Africa/Russia/N Am)

Sat 0600 5745
Sat 0830 5745
Sat 1530 6040
Sat 1900 13760
Sun 0030 5745
Sun 0400 5745
Sun 0530 5745
Sun 1530 6040

KWHR Angel 3 (To: Asia/Pacific)

Sat 0300 17510
Sat 0600 17780
Sun 0000 17510
Sun 0600 17780
Sun 1830 9930

KWHR Angel 4 (To: South Pacific)

Sat 1430 11565
Sun 1300 11565

WHRA Angel 5 (To: Africa/Middle East)

Sat 0800 11565
Sat 0930 7435
Sat 2230 17650
Sun 0200 7580
Sun 0530 7435
Sun 0930 11565
Sun 1705 17650
Sun 2230 17650
Mon 0400 7580

If you can't find this show somewhere among all of these frequencies and times, then it is probably time to get a checkup on your receiver.

CLANDESTINE RADIO INTEL

Last month we mentioned that Nick Grace's amazing *Clandestine Radio Intel* web site was on a summer hiatus while Nick was in Asia. Now that summer is over, I checked Nick's web site to see what is new. He added the following announcement: "Sep 2000: Expect major changes to this site in October." So, during the fall Nick obviously anticipates additional work on this web site. It will certainly pay to check this periodically at its <http://www.qsl.net/yb0rmi/clang/> URL.

CLANDESTINE RADIO WATCH

I would be remiss if I did not mention Martin Schoech's *Clandestine Radio Watch* web site once again this month. Martin's CRW #52 and #53 were slightly delayed this month past the deadline for this column. But, Martin indicated that he would be sending them out soon after technical problems were solved. Since this publication has become the standard reference to all clandestine DXers, the issues were missed while they were delayed. Your best bet is to check <http://www.swl.net/swl-de/crw-main.html> that remains the web site for this valuable service. Nick Grace and Armando Mastrapa remain Martin's partners in this tremendously valuable effort.

FALUN DAFU RADIO

In very fresh news courtesy of *Numero Uno* #1596, BBCMS has announced that Falun Dafa Radio, perhaps translated as World Falun Dafa Radio, took to the air on July 1. BBCMS says that the programs are produced in the United States by Falun Gong personnel. In case you have not been following Chinese news, this religious sect has been in continual conflict with the Chinese government for a couple of years. Various arrests of members by Chinese officials have

led to repeated criticism of China's human rights record, including during recent debate in the Congress on China's trade status with the United States. BBCMS quotes Falun Gong as saying that the purpose of the station is "to broadcast information about the movement and clarify facts about the Falun Gong issue to people in the Chinese mainland."

BBCMS lists the schedule for this one at 1400-1500 UTC on 9370v kHz (9350-9380), 2200-2300 UTC on 12140v kHz (12120-12150), 2200-2300 UTC on 13580v kHz (13575-13590), and at 2200-2300 UTC on 15680v kHz (15670-15700). The frequencies in parentheses are the general range of the transmitter, since the station constantly moves about to avoid heavy Chinese jamming. It's been a while since we had a station like this one that jumps around in a cat and mouse game with jamming transmitters. So, this one could be fun. Look for all programming to be in Mandarin. ID's, according to BBCMS, are supposed to be, "Shijie Falun Dafa Diantai."

As the winter daylight hours get shorter, the afternoon time period should be able to propagate to North America, at least in the eastern part. If you live out west, that morning broadcast could be audible. If you hear this one, we certainly will be very interested to know about your log.

TEN TEC 340

I am very pleased to say that things have changed somewhat around my shack. During the summer I had the pleasure of using a new Ten Tec 340 DSP receiver for a period of time during the testing process for the forthcoming 2001 edition of *Passport to World Band Radio*. After that, I decided that it was time to get another receiver, so I bought one of these. Reception reports from your editor will now arrive with a new piece of equipment listed under "receiver."

I plan to say something about the performance of this rig, but until the new *Passport* appears in the bookstores, I have to be mum for a few weeks. But, not too long after this issue of *The ACE* arrives in your mailbox, the new *Passport* should be arriving in the same place. After that, look for some remarks here about the new radio.

I might say one thing even at this time. The going price for one of these is \$3,900. That is cheaper than a Watkins Johnson 8711, but it isn't something that you will find as a blue light special at K-Mart.

KLINGENFUSS SALE

Joerg Klingenfuss, well known publisher of excellent utility and broadcast station lists and databases, has pointed out that his products are all on sale. This is not a marketing move, but it is instead associated with the steep plunge of the Euro exchange rate against the US dollar. So, he suggests that his various books should be cheaper now, even though they have always been somewhat pricey.

Among the updated items available shortly will be his *2001 Super Frequency List on CD-ROM*, *2001 Guide to Utility Radio Stations*, *2001 Shortwave Frequency Guide*, and *2001 Guide to Worldwide Weather Services*. If you are interested in any of these, and if you want to speculate on the currency situation, you might want to check out Joerg's web site that is located at the <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Klingenfuss> URL.

WAVECOM

Sometimes digital decoders are useful in covert station monitoring. If you're interested in this sort of thing, R. Haengi of SHOC in Switzerland sends in word that "the revolutionary WAVECOM W41PC MKII DSP Digital Data Decoder Card for professional users has been re-designed using the latest chip technology. Accordingly, the length of the card has been cut to 200 mm, and the power consumption has been reduced. An external demodulator input for FSK signals has been added." If you want more information on this, the SHOC web site is very interesting at a <http://www.shoc.ch> URL. They sell a lot of high end receivers, so even if you're not interested in the digital decoder, the site is a good place to drool.

SCOTT GENTRY

I have to thank Scott Gentry in print for the various loggings that he sent in lately. These were all pirate logs, so they go into *Monitoring Times* and not *The ACE* clandestine coverage. But, many of you are not familiar with Scott, even though he is a longtime ACE member. Scott does most of his DXing from a portable receiver in a car while he is delivering pizzas. I sometimes get inquiries from DXers who have trouble hearing pirate and clandestine stations, but Scott is living proof that you can hear the stations if you tune your receiver to the clandestine frequency or the main 6955 kHz pirate frequency. Way to go, Scott!

CERTAIN ETHNIC COMPUTER VIRUS

OK, this doesn't have anything to do with clandestines, but Dennis Kosakowski sent it in, so I have decided to print it. This message arrived as an e-mail:

You have just received the "Polish Virus"!!! As we don't have any programming experience, this virus works on the honor system. Please delete all the files on your hard drive, then manually forward this virus to everyone on your mailing list. Thanks for your cooperation.

THANKS!

The input of ACE members and other DXers is vitally important to this column, and to all other ACE columns. We thank Martin Schoech (Germany), Chris Lobdell (Massachusetts), Nick Grace (ex-Indonesia), Scott Gentry (Illinois), Dennis Kosakowski (North America), R. Haengi (Switzerland), and George Zeller (Ohio) for providing material. Next month we all hope to hear from YOU by October 20 for the November *Clandestine Profile*.

YOU HEARD US!



the
MIDNITE RADIO
Box 109
Blue Ridge Summit,
PA 17214
(214) 888-1551 24 hrs!

MIDNITE RADIO

NAME _____
FREQ. _____ POWER _____
DATE _____ TIME _____
TECHNICAL _____

QSL

SIGNED _____

Micro'casting

by: Bud Stacey, PO Box 907, Satsuma, AL 36572
e-mail: salstacey@aol.com

The sole purpose of this column is to enlighten & educate ACE members about the many facets of Part 15 and micro radio- this is YOUR column! Please send all newspaper clippings, tapes, station profiles and what-have-you to the address or e-mail address above.

GOOD NEWS! Hey, no obits that I know of this month! Well, none that I'd like, anyway. You know, every day is a good day when you don't wake up with dirt in your face! A little sick humor, but true!

I know this is somewhat off the beaten track of Micro/Part 15 Radio, but I can't resist telling y'all about the good deal I got recently! I'd been wanting a BayGen Freeplay radio for some time now, but couldn't justify the \$79.95 pricetag for a non-digital radio, especially when I have several of both types. Well, lo and behold, I walked into a clearance store the other day and saw on the shelf, new in the box Model FPR 1 AM/FM/SW radios for \$29.99! I agonized over one for about ten minutes, knowing the budget has been tight, then slapped the credit card down.

The wife was understanding when I got home- thanks, sweetheart! I immediately unpacked it & found it to perform better than I expected! Great audio, good receive, better than I expected. Today, I couldn't help it- I had to install an external antenna jack for a longwire! I may not need it, but now I can plug one in, if needed. I may have to experiment further, in the future, but signals are SO good on the whip, I don't think I'll need it! Maybe one day, I'll hear some old-time pirates on AM!?!?

As for short-wave portables, many today have really hot receivers. Sometimes, some "help" can be realized in the way of a longer (than the whip) longwire or active antenna. I built my own, which has given me lots of pleasure in dragging those pirates out of the basement! If anyone has a simple design for HF/VHF/UHF, I'd appreciate copies of the designs, since my active antenna (built from plans from the July 1990 *Monitoring Times*) only gives a little gain in the FM band. Thanks!

LEGISLATION: I'm not exactly sure where the House Resolution regarding the banning of LPFM stands right now; I think it's at a standstill for further committee perusal. Needless to say, the NAB is still blasting the FCC over the whole thing. In the meantime, folks are still filing for LPFM licenses - way to go! If you'd like to see what's up with H.R. 3439, log onto: www.thomas.loc.gov and follow the prompts, insert the proposed bill number (or any bill number you're interested in) and read away! BY THE WAY, a couple of toll-free numbers that were published in the April issue has been disconnected - probably due to SO many calls going in! These still work, however, so you can still call your Congressman or woman: 800-648-3516...877-778-9001...877-722-7494. As always, be polite, be firm and always thank the person you talk to for their time, efforts and patience.

From the alt.radio.pirate newsgroup: "Notice was received the afternoon of Sept. 1 via 2nd day certified mail that Federal Court Judge Fred Biery has upheld an injunction against Micro Kind Radio by the FCC. Joe Ptak and Zeal Stefanoff, KIND's directors, elected to comply with the court order and have ceased broadcast operations as of 4:20pm Sept. 1, 2000. KIND has been on the air non-stop since March 27, 1997. Ptak and a representative from the FCC must appear before Judge Biery in San Antonio on Sept. 29; more details to follow. Chris Hurd, San Marcos, TX."

What a load, folks; precedent was set on this type of station with Radio Free Vermont and Radio Free Lenawee (MI) whereas the FCC had no jurisdiction over INTRASTATE radio, where no signal crossed any state lines. The last time I checked, KIND wasn't anywhere near the Texas state borders. I guess the FCC will have to find out the hard way, once again, that this is another case of intrastate, NOT interstate, radio. I certainly hope Judge Biery follows precedent.

Meanwhile, I tried to catch up with Free Radio Vermont; apparently, their e-mail is no longer viable, their website is down and they're out of business. The last I heard, the operator was begging for funds to keep the station on

the air & got little help, so he probably blew his victory. Well, at least he set a legal milestone for whoever else wants to try it. I'll research Rev. Strawcutter's station next time.

I don't ever remember any ACE columnists exposing their personal political views in these pages, but I will say that I will always fight for what I believe in, including Free Radio. Don't EVER expect "the other guy/gal" to call for you. I called on a particular matter this week and got the response back that many folks had called my Congressman's office on the matter. Remember, the squeaky wheel gets the grease- if you want something, be sure to ask! These folks are supposed to work for YOU, not the other way around.

As far as the radio scene goes, I STILL see many "newbies" on the alt.radio.pirate newsgroup looking for advice, in all areas, in many countries around the world. Seems as if LPFM has been an idea building strong in Europe for many years. However, these folks don't "play" radio, they're dead serious about it! "Low power" to them is on the order of hundreds of watts. I've seen specs on stations running as little as 300 watts, others as much as 1.5 kilowatts! Recently, a German border station broadcasting into Poland got busted. I don't know the particulars, but these folks were running a serious station, folks!

The popular transmitters still seem to be the (real) Veronica, NRG and others mentioned in past columns. The Ramsey kit transmitters are still floating around- no new news about THEM lately, since they got raided by the government - guess we'll have to log on their website or call, huh? The Ramsey kits are good entry-level kits, providing good theory, practice and building skills.

Recently, I read somewhere, either in print or in a newsgroup where Steven Dunifer had suffered another setback from the court regarding his case. The court ruled that, at the time of the charges against him, he had not filed for a broadcast license, therefore he had no basis for trial against the FCC. He's a fighter and I'm sure he's not about to cave in....If I can find the reference, I'll be sure to give credit where credit is due.

FILING INFORMATION: Interested in filing for that LPFM license? There are several sources to consider. Although not all-conclusive, these are those that I have at my fingertips: LPB Communications, Inc., 610-644-1123 or www.lpbinc.com; Audemat, 978-392-2110, www.audemat.com; Henry Engineering, 626-355-3656, www.henryeng.com; and MBC Consulting, 800-219-7461, www.mbcradio.org/consulting. There are one or two that I'm missing at this point - please forgive me, folks - but these are a good start.

Sorry this hasn't been a real "juicy" column this month- not much info has come my way, plus I've been living with a pinched nerve in my spine lately; kinda takes the spunk out of you, what with the pain & pills. Things are much better now- I was even able to work this week and attend a gun show today!

Looking for YOUR contribution soon! And as soon as I can edit & possibly pass on some artwork to our Ye Olde Managing Editor, I'll get The Dude's Phone Patch article here - it won't be any good without the artwork! Until next time talk hard, Happy Harry, wherever you are.....de Bud

Covert Comms

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Back on April 1st, an Enigma machine was stolen from the museum at Bletchly Park, in England. The machine, a rare type of code machine used by WWII German intelligence, is valued at 100,000 pounds British Sterling. Now the museum has received a mysterious letter from someone offering to return the machine for £10,000. The letter, which was called "the most significant development in the investigation" was apparently typed on a wartime typewriter and written in an unusual style which may or may not hold clues as to the whereabouts of the machine. The letter was also signed with a word that does not exist in the English language, but police refuse to say what that word is. Police, who once were baffled by the theft, are now using codebreakers to try to determine the location of the stolen code machine.

This stuff is better than fiction.

Apparently, the machine was stolen and then sold to a third party, who was unaware of the machine's hot status. Now that as yet unidentified third party wants to return it for the £10,000. The letter purports to be from a middle man representing the current owner, and is considered authentic because it contains a photocopy of the number plate, G312, which was attached to the machine.

In other news from England, a former British spy named David Shaylor was granted bail after being charged with breaching the Official Secrets Act. Shaylor allegedly wrote a newspaper article in 1997 in which he stated that MI5 kept files on prominent British politicians and celebrities, including John Lennon. Shaylor, who recently returned to Britain after three years of exile in Paris, will plead not guilty to the charges at a later hearing, according to his lawyer.

Canadian police are investigating whether American and Israeli spies used rigged software to hack into Canada's top secret intelligence files. The software, named Promis, was developed to assist prosecutors in the US Department of Justice, which was the center of a scandal about ten years ago. The software may have been rigged with a "trap-door," allowing unauthorized access to sensitive information. The software is in use by Canada's spy service and the Mounties.

Perhaps someone will get Dudley Doright's hat size?

That's all for this month. Have a happy Halloween and I hope the spooks don't visit you.

the ASSOCIATION of CLANDESTINE radio ENTHUSIASTS

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The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and the theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses.

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